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I have been listening to satellite radio for about a year now and find its services very needed. I grew up with AM radio and was one of the first to have FM before there were many stations to listen to. We were one of the first families to have a TV in our neighborhood. In all of those times, we would have found it unthinkable to restrict any of these mediums in order to protect the other. Why would you find it necessary to do so today.

Free and open competition is necessary to allow the American freedom to flourish. If we had restricted automobiles to long distance trips in order to protect horses, where would we be today in our progress. Any time you stifle competitive innovation you set back the progress that has made our nation strong. Think of the innovations we would have missed if we had stopped human nature from finding new ways of using technology to improve our communication systems. Local radio will still prosper with competition from satellite radio, it will just do what it does best. Competition is the fire that makes the metal stronger.

I am not concerned about the companies who are crying about this new type of competition because of "local" service. The local station does not exist today. The truly small company got put out of business years ago when their competition was bought out by the big conglomerate. Those that do exist will continue because they have found a place even though the big companies came into the city and took over with their own satellite delivery system. They too will find their place in the innovations that are produced. If they don't find a way to continue then they too should go the way of buggy whip manufacturers. We cannot slow down progress and innovation because we like the "old days". The "old days" have to prove that they serve a purpose then people will keep them alive.